



*Our faith will work by love,
or it will not work at all.*

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NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023



FROM CHAR'S DESK

Many times Christians are puzzled as to why Mormons don't realize that their religion is not true when there is so much evidence of errors and contradictions in it compared to the Bible. I decided to ask an ex-Mormon the answer to this dilemma but, believe it or not, I received my answer, not from an ex-Mormon, but from an active Mormon! Following are portions from his e-mail:

...“People don't join the Mormon Church to have a consistent and scientific set of beliefs; they join the Church for many other reasons and mostly NOT for doctrinal reasons. Basically they like the feeling of warmth, of belonging, of tradition, of “knowing,” of feeling superior, of sensing that they have the answers to life's difficult questions. We don't care whether we are wrong, we aren't in it to be right, we are in it to feel good. And we don't much care whether the Bible is complete or not, whether it is in error or not. Modern revelation trumps all other scripture anyway. We could have no Bible or BofM at all, and things would go on just fine. We don't follow the Bible, we don't follow the BofM, we follow the prophet.”

So maybe now you will understand the answer to this puzzle, as least from one Mormon's viewpoint. Mormonism is man-centered and Christianity is Christ-centered!

~ STEVE'S CORNER ~

LOVED BUT UNCOMFORTABLE

I want the Mormon people I am sharing with to feel loved but uncomfortable! As a matter of fact, I want them to feel as uncomfortable as Hell so they won't go there. What do I mean by that? Many churches and Christian organizations teach Christians to be so loving

to Mormons that the LDS walk away from these witnessing encounters emboldened and really strongly believing that they are the real Christians and that the LDS Church is God's one and only true church on the face of the earth.

Then there are churches and Christian organizations that teach their people to be so aggressive when witnessing to Mormons that it turns off the LDS people from ever accepting the real God, the real Jesus and real Biblical salvation. We, as believers at ex-Mormons, believe we need to have a balance! That is, when we are sharing Christ with the Mormon people, we absolutely want them to feel loved or our witnessing efforts are in vain.

However, it is crucial that we speak the truth in love and are bold in our sharing real, Biblical Christianity with them. For example, if I am sharing with a Mormon on how the Bible teaches that there is only one true God from Isaiah chapters 43-46, along with numerous other places in the Bible, they will have a strong difference of opinion. That is completely fine! However, I will question the LDS person further on why the Book of Mormon in Alma chapter 11 teaches there is only one God, yet their additional Scripture Doctrine and Covenants 132:19-20 teaches there are many gods. I ask this question with a loving attitude and NOT with a tone of anger or sarcasm. This approach should help our Mormon friends we are witnessing to feel loved, but very uncomfortable. How can there be only one God existing yet many gods existing at the same time? That doesn't make sense! They can't have their cake and eat it, too!

When the apostle Paul was sharing Christ and confronting the Judiazers in the church in Galatia, he asked them a very pointed question, “Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth?” Show love to the Mormons every single time you are witnessing to them or your best

efforts will be in vain! But stop being politically correct just to make them feel more comfortable!

When a Mormon begins to doubt their faith, they will feel very uncomfortable. That is good! However, you don't want them to stay uncomfortable and without hope the rest of their lives. Take that opportunity to share with them that the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords loves them desperately and died for them, not so they can become gods and goddesses in the afterlife, but so they can have an eternal relationship with the one and only true God of the Bible, the Lord Jesus Christ!

But don't let them walk away from your witnessing encounter just feeling loved and comfortable, for in that case, my friend, you did not share the real gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and your witnessing efforts are useless! They should feel loved but uncomfortable! That will prove that you have cared for them and their soul, yet you have given them something to think about in Mormonism that is troubling doctrinally.

Do not have them research every problem you can think of as that will turn them off and be overwhelming for both of you. Give them 2-3 problems of Mormonism that concern you and concerns God and make a plan to get back together with you in the near future so they can have time to research the problems you have raised.

Make sure that they always feel loved by Christ but uncomfortable in the LDS Church with works, Joseph Smith, the Book of Mormon, many gods and becoming gods and goddesses. It is at this point that you know without a doubt you have shared the truth, while at the same time shared the major concerns you have with the truthfulness of the Mormon church because eternal souls and destinies are at stake. Pray, share the Bible and the real Jesus and watch God, the Holy Spirit, do the work and change lives for all eternity!!!

LETTERS OF RESIGNATION

Dear Bishop C.

In a letter I received from you last spring I was told my name would be removed from your membership rolls. I am very disturbed to see my name in the stake directory. Richard's name is also there. He has never

been a Mormon! Rick's name is also there - he no longer even lives in the stake. I now have a personal relationship with my Savior. I know that the BIBLE IS GOD'S WORD - ALL OF IT! I realize that I am a sinner and alone there is nothing I can do to be saved, have eternal life or exaltation. By my giving my life to Christ I have been made perfect! Christ did it all - take seriously what God says in Matthew 5:48: Be ye therefore perfect, even as your father which is in heaven is perfect." The important word is "be" not become as Mormons are conditioned to think. God has declared me, a person who sins constantly, perfect because Jesus was perfect for me and wiped my sins away with his death. See James 2:10... The teachings of the Mormon Church do not agree with the teachings of Jesus. Therefore, the teachings of false apostles and prophets were used as the foundation of the Mormon Church...If the Mormon Church is not built on Christ, then it is built on a lie. "Those who believe a lie will be damned because they believe not the truth." 2 Thess.2:10-12.

I challenge you to begin studying the Bible without the aid of Mormon study manuals. Prayerfully consider Rom 10:8-10...In Phil. 3 Paul tells of how he tried to earn salvation by trying to be good. He obeyed every Jewish law and custom. He was so sincere in his belief that he was right, that he did everything he could to persecute the Christians. But all things that he thought were worthwhile he renounced to put all his trust and hope in Christ alone. He no longer counted on being saved by being good enough or by obeying God's laws, but by trusting Christ to save him...

You have been deceived in the same way that Paul was before his conversion, believing your status in heaven depends upon how good you are and how well you obey the laws and ordinances of the Mormon Church.

I challenge you to take a look at what you consider righteous and then take a look at Jesus, study about him and finally TRUST IN HIM ALONE TO SAVE.

In Christ's Love,
S.L.

Exciting news!!!

Dear Friends of Ex-Mormons,
I hope this note finds you and your family well as we transition to Fall and the upcoming holidays! For those of you who live in Southern California and within 45 minutes of Disneyland I wanted to personally invite you to hear me speak on Mormonism at Landmark Church in Diamond Bar on Wednesday, October 18th, at 6:30 in the evening. I have been speaking on Mormonism and Jehovah's Witnesses for the past 35 years at numerous churches in North and South America, including being a live guest on three radio stations in Southern California talking about these two cults whom Christ loves and died for. I was on Pastor's perspective on KWVE, 107.9 FM, Calvary Chapel's radio station talking about how to witness to Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses. For those of you who have been around awhile like myself years ago I did a radio interview with Frank Pastore from KKLA, 99.5 FM, a great Christian guy who tragically later was killed in a motorcycle accident.

Since the audience I'm targeting will be mainly young people from Junior High all the way through college/young adult the presentation will be short and hard hitting. I will have 30 minutes to speak with 15 minutes of questions and answer time. Afterwards I will have the opportunity to have available for the audience awesome resources like great websites, tracts, books on sale for suggested donations for \$15-\$20, and for old fashioned folks like myself DVD's from our ministry called Jesus Christ/Joseph Smith for free on how to effectively witness to Mormons. It is going to be a special night and please invite as many family and friends as you can! There is no cost to the presentations and you don't have to register. Just show up with a Bible, notebook, and an open heart. Everyone is invited to come and you don't have to be a young person to attend. Please pray for my family and me as I have been under a lot of spiritual attacks lately leading up to this cults seminar. To find the address look up their website at landmark.live The presentation will be held in the main sanctuary. I look forward to seeing many of you there! If you can't attend please pray

without ceasing as there will be many in attendance whose salvation literally hangs in the balance! If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or you want to share with me I am covered in prayer leading up to this presentation on Mormonism I would greatly appreciate it!!! If you can't attend this important meeting I am hoping that the presentation will be on Youtube in the near future. I will give more details on that in our last newsletter of 2023. Thank you for your continued support and your love for the real, Biblical Jesus! Love in Christ, Steve Welch
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